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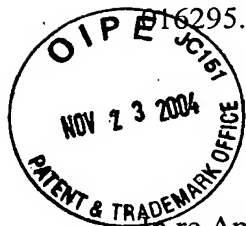
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PATENT APPLICATION

10/617,306



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Branden Clark Bickley et al.

Serial No.:

10/617,306

Date Filed:

July 10, 2003

Group Art Unit:

2125

Examiner:

Frank, Elliot L.

Title:

METHOD, SYSTEM AND FACILITY FOR  
CONTROLLING RESOURCE ALLOCATION  
WITHIN A MANUFACTURING  
ENVIRONMENT

**MAIL STOP – AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV351286067US addressed to: Mail Stop – Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 23, 2004.

*Angela Loding*

Angela Loding

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Office Action mailed September 8, 2004, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments set forth below and request favorable action thereon.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.